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United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

On 28 April 2008, the Secretary-General sent notes verbales to Israel and all other Member States, drawing their attention to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 62/102 to 62/105 and requesting information by 1 July 2008 concerning any action taken or envisaged in relation to their implementation. A reply dated 23 June 2008 was received from Mexico, covering various aspects of resolutions 62/102 to 62/105. The full text of the reply is reproduced in the present report. No information has been received from other Member States regarding the relevant provisions of the resolutions.

* A/63/150.

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1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 62/105 of 17 December 2007 on Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues.

2. On 28 April 2008, the Secretary-General drew the attention of the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations to General Assembly resolutions 62/102 to 62/105, all of 17 December 2007, with the request that the Permanent Representative of Israel inform him by 1 July 2008 of any steps his Government had taken or envisaged taking in implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions.

3. Also on 28 April 2008, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to all other Member States, drawing their attention to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 62/102 to 62/105, in particular the appeal contained in paragraph 4 of resolution 62/102, paragraph 4 of resolution 62/103 and paragraph 18 of resolution 62/104 for contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for assistance. The importance of paragraph 4 of resolution 62/105 was also emphasized. The Secretary-General requested information by 1 July 2008 on any actions taken or envisaged in relation to their implementation.

4. A reply dated 23 June 2008 was received from Mexico covering various aspects of General Assembly resolutions 62/102 to 62/105. The text read as follows:

> The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Department of Political Affairs and has the honour to refer to its communication of 28 April 2008 (DPA/APD/GA/RES.62/102-105), relating to the implementation of the resolutions on the situation in the Middle East and on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, adopted during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly. In that connection, the Permanent Mission of Mexico transmits [below] information relating to our country's compliance with resolutions 62/102-62/105.
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> *Resolution 62/102 on assistance to Palestine refugees.* Mexico considers that the solution to the conflict in the Middle East must include a just solution to the problem of the refugees. It reiterates its support for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), to which it consequently makes an annual contribution of $5,000.
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> *Resolution 62/103 on persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities.* Mexico supports the work that UNRWA is doing on behalf of displaced persons and believes it important to make a wide-ranging analysis of the issue of their displacement, including possible ways of combating the causes that give rise to mass movements of persons.
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> *Resolution 62/104 on operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.* Pursuant to paragraph 18 of the resolution, the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers fellowships to scholars from Asia, the Pacific, Africa and the Middle East, including Palestine, for the study of Mexican culture at the Educational Centre for Foreign Students (Centro de Enseñanza para Extranjeros — CEPE) at the Taxco campus of the National Autonomous University of Mexico; for advanced study towards a master's degree or a doctorate; [and] for high-level

doctoral research with tutorials in academic institutions or for post-doctoral visits of three months to two years in academic institutions. In addition, pursuant to paragraph 19 of the resolution, it must be pointed out that while financial restrictions make it impossible for Mexico to increase its contributions to UNRWA, it will nevertheless maintain the annual contribution of $5,000 referred to earlier.

It should be noted that Mexico has established a cooperative programme between the National Autonomous University of Mexico and the Palestinian Children's Relief Foundation, under which three annual scholarships are awarded to Palestinians for training in the Faculty of Dentistry. Likewise, Mexican doctors have on four occasions travelled to the Palestinian city of Nablus to perform about 400 maxillofacial surgeries.

Resolution 62/105 on Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues. Mexico has no competence to implement the provisions of this resolution.

5. No information has been received from other Member States with regard to steps taken concerning General Assembly resolution 62/105.